

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 27, 2017

Jimmie Cho, Senior Vice President
Gas Operations and System Integrity
Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street, GT21C3
Los Angeles, CA 90013

GI-2017-04-SEM-40-08

Subject: General Order (G.O.) 112¹ Operation and Maintenance Comprehensive Inspection of Sempra Energy Utilities' Compressor Stations

Dear Mr. Cho:

The Safety and Enforcement Division (SED) of the California Public Utilities Commission conducted a G.O. 112¹ Operation and Maintenance Comprehensive Inspection at the following Sempra Energy Utilities' (Sempra) Compressor Stations on April 3-7 and 10-14, 2017:

1. Moreno Valley Compressor Station
2. Blythe Compressor Station
3. South Needles Compressor Station
4. North Needles Compressor Station
5. Kelso Compressor Station
6. Adelanto Compressor Station
7. Newberry Springs Compressor Station
8. Wheeler Ridge Compressor Station
9. Sylmar Compressor Station
10. Ventura Compressor Station

The inspection included a review of the Station's Leak Survey, Patrol, Cathodic Protection, Valves, Overpressure protection – reliefs and shutdowns, ESD system, Gas Detection and Alarm systems inspection records for calendar years 2013 thru 2016 and field inspections of the facilities at the aforementioned Stations. SED's staff also reviewed Operator Qualification records, which included field observation of randomly selected individuals performing covered tasks. SED's staff identified two probable violations of G.O. 112¹, Reference Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 192, and noted one concern which are described in the attached "Summary of Inspection Findings". SEMPRAs notified SED that the following compressor stations were isolated from the pipeline system and decommissioned:

1. Cactus City Compressor Station isolated on May 5, 2016
2. Desert Center Compressor Station isolated on May 12, 2016
3. Rainbow Compressor Station isolated on October 18, 2016

¹ General Order 112-F was adopted by the Commission on June 25, 2015 via 15-06-044

Please provide a written response within 30 days of receipt of this letter indicating any updates or corrective actions taken by Sempra to address the probable violations and the concern noted on the "Summary of Inspection Findings.

If you have any questions, please contact Durga Shrestha, at (213) 576-5763.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Bruno
Program Manager
Gas Safety and Reliability Branch
Safety and Enforcement Division

CC: Durga Shrestha, SED/GSRB
Kan Wai Tong, SED/GSRB
Kelly Dolcini, SED/GSRB
Troy Bauer, Sempra

Summary of Inspection Findings
2017 Sempra's Compressor Stations Inspection
April 03 – April 14, 2017

I. SED Identified Probable Violations

1. Title 49 CFR, Part 192 §192.731 Compressor Stations: Inspection and Testing of Relief Devices.

§192.731 Compressor stations: Inspection and testing of relief devices states in part:

“(c) Each remote control shutdown device must be inspected and tested at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, to determine that it functions properly.”

On April 10, 2017, SED staff observed record at Adelanto Compressor Station facility that indicated the Emergency Shutdown (ESD) inspection was performed on October 12, 2012. The records indicated that the subsequent ESD inspection at this facility was performed on January 24, 2014. SCG did not provide inspection records for the year of 2013. Also, SCG did not provide 2012 through 2016 ESD inspection records for Sylmar Compressor Station facility. Sempra did not provide documentation to demonstrate that it inspected and tested the ESD devices at the aforementioned stations at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year, to determine that it functions properly. Therefore, Sempra is in violation of G.O. 112-F, Reference Title 49 CFR Part 192, Section 192.731(c).

2. Title 49 CFR, Part 192 §192.745 Valve Maintenance: Transmission Lines

§192.745 Valve maintenance: Transmission lines states in part:

“(a) Each transmission line valve that might be required during any emergency must be inspected and partially operated at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year.”

On April 10, 2017, SED staff noted that the valves inspection at the Sylmar Compressor Station was performed on April 25, 2012. Subsequent visual valves inspection was conducted on October 3, 2013. The time interval between these two inspections is approximately 17 months. *Each transmission line valve that might be required during any emergency must be inspected and partially operated at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year.* Therefore, Sempra is in violation of G.O. 112-F, Reference Title 49 CFR, Part 192 Section 192.745(a).

II. Concerns, Observations and Recommendation

SED's staff noted that an emergency evacuation plan was missing at the following compressor stations: Adelanto, Newberry Springs, Wheeler Ridge, Sylmar and Ventura. SED recommends that Sempra maintain the emergency evacuation plan at each compressor station.